

By Senator Gaetz

4-05174-08

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## Senate Resolution

A resolution commending the Florida Goodwill Association for its contributions to the economic base of the State of Florida and its provision of employment and job training to millions of Floridians.

WHEREAS, Goodwill Industries, operating on the belief that productivity and vocation are cornerstones of life and that all people have a right to be treated with dignity and respect without regard to race, gender, age, marital status, national origin, or state of health, is now the largest nonprofit provider of vocational training and employment services in the United States, and

WHEREAS, Goodwill Industries provides quality vocational training and employment services to people who are impaired by disabilities and to those who suffer other disadvantages, such as being undereducated or illiterate, welfare-dependent, or homeless, or having a criminal history, and

WHEREAS, through the 106 years of its existence, Goodwill Industries has successfully designed and implemented many innovative vocational training and employment programs, enabling millions of people with disabilities and disadvantages to develop career opportunities and improve the quality of their lives, and

WHEREAS, in the 2007 calendar year, 141,924 Floridians have participated in the programs administered by Goodwill Industries, and 44,084 of those participants have obtained gainful employment in the communities in which they live, and

WHEREAS, throughout this last calendar year, the Florida Goodwill Association, through nine local Goodwill Industries

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30 entities operating throughout Florida, collectively generated  
31 more than \$641 million in earnings realized by people in  
32 community employment, resulting in a significant contribution to  
33 the state's economic base and increasing its tax revenues, NOW,  
34 THEREFORE,

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36 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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38 That the Senate commends the Florida Goodwill Association  
39 for its valued programs and vision, which have expanded the  
40 employment opportunities and occupational capabilities of  
41 millions of Floridians.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with  
43 the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Mr. Tom Fuerig,  
44 President of the Florida Goodwill Association, as a tangible  
45 token of the sentiments of the Florida Senate.